

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PEKING 00678 140635Z
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSC-05 INR-06 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02 PA-01 /046 W
-----097079 140743Z /10

R 140618Z MAR 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0118
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T PEKING 0678

LIMDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PINT CH
SUBJ: PEKING RUMOR MILL ACTIVITIES

1. SCANDINAVIAN DIPLOMAT WHO HAS SMALL CIRCLE OF CHINESE
CONTACTS FROM FORMER DAYS AS STUDENT AND JOURNALIST HERE HAS
PROVIDED US WITH FOLLOWING RUMORS CIRCULATING AMONG HIS FRIENDS.

2. LIU SHAO-CHI'S WIDOW, WANG KUANG-MEI, WAS RECENTLY
RELEASED FROM PRISON. SHE HAD BEEN HELD SINCE 1967 AT A
DETENTION CENTER NEAR THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN PEKING.

3. PENG TE-HUAI HAS BEEN POSTHUMOUSLY REHABILITATED AND PENG
CHEN WILL SOON BE BROUGHT BACK TO AN IMPORTANT IPARTY POSITION
IN KWANGTUNG.

4. SAIFUDDIN WAS ABLE TO RETAIN AT LEAST SOME OF HIS
POSITIONS BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE UNREST AMONG THE
UIGHUR POPULATION INSINKIANG WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED
IN AUGUST 1977. IN ORDER TO ALLAY UIGHUR FEARS THAT THEY HAD LOST
THEIR REPRESENTATIVE AT THE CENTER, IT HAD BEEN NECESSARY TO KEEP
SECRET

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SAIFUDDIN VISIBLE IN AT LEAST SUPERFICIALLY IMPORTANT POSTS.

5. WHILE WE CANNOT VOUCH FOR THE ACCURACY OF ANY OF THE ABOVE,
SUCH RUMORS ARE INTERESTING INDICATIONS OF WHAT INFORMED CHINESE
MIGHT BE THINKING.
DEAN

SECRET

NNN

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